

have been higher than a fiscal year that straddled 1993 and 1994.

The legislation that Congressman MCGOVERN and I have introduced will address these problems and provide a sensible transition to a prospective payment system. First, it will extend HCFA's deadline for developing the Interim Payment System to August, 1998, and delay implementation of the caps under the IPS until October 1, 1998. That way the regulations will be announced before the home care providers have to comply. It will let the providers know what kind of cost limits they need to meet and more importantly, it will give them more time to meet those limits.

H.R. 3205 will also change the base year used to calculate the agency's cap. Instead of "federal fiscal year 1994," the home health care providers would be permitted to use a cost reporting period ending either during fiscal year 1995, or calendar 1995. This will soften the severity of the cuts by moving the base year forward to 1995 and eliminate the distortions created by agencies' use of different fiscal years.

While this bill applies directly to home care providers, it is obviously critically needed for the senior citizens who are the recipients of home care. Often home care makes all the difference between our senior citizens remaining independent and moving into institutional care. Many of the letters and phone calls that I am receiving from my elderly constituents emphasize the crucial difference that home care makes. More individuals receiving institutional care means more state and federal Medicaid spending. These provisions in the Balanced Budget Act could ultimately cost money as spending moves from the Medicare/home care side of the ledger to the Medicaid/nursing home side.

Prior to the Balanced Budget Act, Medicare was in desperate need of reform. Most of the reforms included in the Balanced Budget Act are sensible and will help this vital program survive into the 21st Century. I want to commend Congressman MCGOVERN for developing a sensible, measured bill that will address these serious problems. I look forward to working with him to see this legislation through to passage.

GUAM AND HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the Bill of Rights contained in the Constitution of the United States outlines the fundamental freedoms granted to all American citizens. There have been many interpretations and challenges to these amendments, yet it is evident that the Bill of Rights are timeless principles which guarantee protection and accord opportunities for all Americans.

Many of us have taken our fundamental rights for granted. Although we are constantly reminded by current events that the citizens of other nations are not afforded these essential liberties, it is easy to forget that the rights we enjoy are not shared by a majority of the world's population.

On December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations overwhelmingly

adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a document based on the United States Bill of Rights. This document explicitly sets forth a list of fundamental rights from the right to life to the right to participation in the cultural life of a community.

I cosponsored a resolution last year, H.Con.Res. 185, which calls on the United States to reaffirm its dedication to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' tenets.

The celebration of Human Rights Day on December 10 is in direct correlation to the approval of the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Not only does this remind us of the continuing global fight for basic human rights, it also serves as a forum to honor those committed to this fight. I commend the following individuals from Guam for their initiatives in the fight for human rights: Senot Carlos P. Taitano, Senot Antonio M. Palomo, Senot Eddie D. Reyes, Senot Ted S. Nelson, Senot Ben G. Blaz, Governor Carl T.C. Gutierrez, Senot Joseph F. Ada, Senot Paul M. Calvo, Judge Benjamin J.F. Cruz, Attorney Michael F. Phillips, Senator Angel L.H. Santos, Senator Mark C. Charfauros, Senora Hope A. Cristobal, Senora Marilyn D.A. Manibusan, Dr. Katherine B. Aguon, Senot Henry M. Eclavea, Senot Vicente U. Garrido, Senot Manuel L. Tenorio, Senot Ivan Blas DeSoto, Senot Antonio A. Sablan, Senot Juan M. Flores, Senot Ed Benavente, Senot Ron Rivera, Senot Ron Teehan, Senot Chris Perez-Howard, Senot William Hernandez, and Senot Norbert P. Perez.

On December 10, 1997, the Ancestral Landowners' Coalition (ALC) invited me and several other community leaders to their forum on human rights. I applaud the ALC's efforts for supporting the people of Guam's struggle to fight for our civil rights, for although Guam is under the American flag, there are still issues, such as our petition for commonwealth status, with which the people of Guam feel the federal government has not addressed sufficiently.

Remembering Human Rights Day on December 10 will renew our dedication to supporting universal civil rights. I encourage the people of the United States to set the example for the rest of the world: continue supporting Human Rights Day and bring attention to the plight of those punished for exercising their right to simply live as a human being.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MILLBRAE, CALIFORNIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to congratulate the beautiful City of Millbrae, California, on the 50th anniversary of its incorporation. Located just 16 miles south of San Francisco on magnificent sloping land between San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean, Millbrae has evolved through the years from rural farmland to a sleepy town to a bustling suburban community. Despite all these changes, Millbrae has remained an outstanding home to its 21,000 citizens, a nourishing environment for parents to raise children and for citizens to become involved in their schools and their neighborhoods.

Millbrae's history begins long before the presentation of its City Charter on January 14, 1948. It can be traced back to the years prior to the birth of our country. The first documented residents were the Costanoan Indians, who were joined during the 18th century by Spanish explorers traveling north from Mexico. The first sighting of San Francisco Bay by the European newcomers took place near Millbrae's present border, on Sweeney Ridge in 1769.

Growth was quite limited during the next century, Mr. Speaker. In the 1860s, financier and philanthropist Darius Ogden Mills purchased a large tract of land in what is now Millbrae. He encouraged the development of his property, which he named Millbrae, combining his last name with the Scottish word brae, which means "rolling hills." While the area encompassed by the estate remained largely rural, dairy, a train depot, and several other buildings eventually joined Mills' impressive mansion.

As San Francisco matured into a leading American city, Millbrae and other surrounding communities steadily grew and began to thrive. Around 1919, the West Coast Porcelain Works Factory opened in Millbrae, creating enough jobs to boost the area population to over 300 people. Eight years later, on May 7, 1927, Mayor James Rolph, Jr., of San Francisco dedicated the Mills Field Municipal Airport just east of Millbrae. By the end of 1928, 22,352 flights carrying 38,302 passengers had used the new airport. Today—seventy years later—the facility, now called San Francisco International Airport, handles over 35 million passengers annually, is one of the major airports in the United States, and remains a major boon to Millbrae's economy. The City currently claims over five hundred flourishing business, including six major hotels, and branch offices of leading financial institutions.

Millbrae organized a volunteer fire department in 1931, a signal of the progress and rapid growth that continued unabated during the Great Depression and post-World War II years. This progress culminated in the incorporation of the City of Millbrae less than three years after V-J Day.

The half-century since its incorporation, Mr. Speaker, has witnessed the continuing growth and invigoration of Millbrae's economic and social life. As the able and devoted city mayor, Mark Church, explained:

Despite tremendous growth and change in and around the City, Millbrae still remarkably maintains its unique charm. Millbrae is strengthened by its citizenry who give selflessly for the betterment of the community. An economically viable, balanced community, where residents enjoy a high quality of life is the result.

Mr. Speaker, the outstanding quality of life that the citizens of Millbrae enjoy is the result to a long line of dedicated city officials and city workers, including Mayor Church, the current Millbrae City Council, the City Administrator and the 136 full-time employees. They serve as a hallmark of the City's long tradition of public service and devotion to community.

I would like to encourage all of my colleagues to visit this splendid city. Millbrae is the host of a number of wonderful events throughout the year. One of the premier activities is the annual Millbrae Art & Wine Festival, one of Northern California's premier events with over 250 craftspeople and 20 international food vendors. The City also boasts a